MR. K GEORGE: The officer will work under the control of the Government and the Government will see that the work is done as quickly as possible.

There is also another thing. The present Village Manual is also not up-to-date and as the whole revenue administration is centred round the *pakuthi*, it is very necessary that the Village Manual should also be brought up-to-date.

One point was raised by Mr. Piraviperumal Pillai as to why these demands were not made at the time of the budget. As regards the first proposal for the additional staff for the Kottayam Dewan Peishkar, the proposal came rather late and Government were considering whether they could not manage without additional staff and they had also some correspondence with the Cochin Government about the cost of the field staff required in connection with the work and that was why the matter could not be concluded before the budget was prepared.

As regards the second part of the demand, we had, on more than one occasion, taken up this question and once we had even put it as a budget proposal. On one occasion the Finance Committee did not see its way to sanction it as they thought it could wait on account of the financial stringency. Whatever it is, I looked into this matter soon after I became Land Revenue, Commissioner and I found it was a very urgent matter, and further delay would be against public interest. It is high time that we take up this work and finish it as expeditiously as possible.

MR. K. K. THOMAS: Has the member any objection to leaving it to private enterprise?

MR. K. GEORGE: The officer appointed will have to handle several confidential files and Government cannot allow a non-official member to deal with them.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: The Laws Delays Commissioner who was appointed to enquire into the delays in courts was a non-official member. So, can we not entrust this matter also to a non-official member?

MR. K. GEORGE: The files that this Special Officer will have to deal with cannot be entrusted to a non-official member.

PRESIDENT: Does any body else wish to speak? Nobody. The motion before the House is for a grant of Rs. 5,328—Rs. 160 for the appointment of a special staff of a clerk on Rs. 25 and a copyist on Rs. 15 per mensem for a period of four months in the Kottayam Division Cutcherry to attend to land acquisition work and Rs. 5,168 for the appointment of a special staff for the revision of the Land Revenue Manual. May I take it that the House sanctions the grant?

The motion was passed.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 6,850 under Public Health and Sanitation. This consists of two items. One is a sum of Rs. 6,250 for the grant of a contribution to the Public Health Department, Madras, in connection

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

with the plague recrudescence enquiry in the Cumbam valley and the other is a sum of Rs. 600 for the payment of allowance, etc., to Mr. T. R Narayana Pillai, Public Analyst, in connection with his training in the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Sir, the Government are now spending about Rs. 23,000 a year on plague preventive measures in Devicolam Division. Last year the Public Health Department of Madras started some experiments in the Cumbam valley with a view to find out the best method of exterminating rats and rat fleas It is a well-known fact that it is the rat fleas that carry plague germs The measures that Government are now adopting in Travancore are fumigation of rice and other provisions that come into Travancore from British parts, and inoculation of persons inhabiting the plague infected areas. The experiment conducted last year by the Madras Health Department showed that by fumigation with a gas called cyanogas it would be possible to kill rats and rat fleas. The Government contributed about Rs. 615 towards the cost of that experiment, and the Madras Health Department has now started an extensive scheme for the extermination of rats and rat fleas in the villages on the eastern frontiers of Travancore in the Cumbam valley. It is expected when this scheme is carried out successfully in that portion of the Cumbam valley it would be possible to exterminate rats and rat fleas in those parts and if that were done the Travancore Government could well give up most of the measures they are now adopting in the Devicolam Division. The cost of the operations now undertaken by the Madras Government is estimated to be about Rs. 12,500, and one half of this, *viz.* Rs. 6,250, is proposed to be contributed by the Travancore Government. If this operation is carried on for two or three years and if all the rats and rat fleas are exterminated from those villages, it would be possible for this Government to discontinue most of their plague preventive measures and thereby save a large portion of the money that is now being spent.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Did the Madras Government ask for a contribution?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: The Special Officer appointed by the Madras Government reported that the experiment started there proved a success and enquired whether this Government would contribute to the cost of the operations. The Deputy Director of Public Health went over there and discussed the matter with the Special Officer and came to the conclusion that it would be advantageous to the Travancore Government to contribute a moiety of the cost. He consequently recommended the contribution and Government accepted the recommendation.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know from the member how this proportion, half and half, was arrived at?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: The operations that are being conducted, if they are successful, will benefit Travancore more than the British parts. The operations are going to be conducted in villages situated on the eastern frontiers of Travancore and it is certainly an advantage to this State to see that these operations are carried

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

on successfully. Because this work would benefit Travancore as much as, if not more than, the Madras Presidency, it was decided that this Government should contribute at least half the expenses.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know from the member the number of persons affected by plague in Travancore during the last three years and the number affected during that period in British India?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: I have not got the figures, but I do not think that the number affected in Travancore is large. The disease will spread if its importation is not checked. It is decidedly better to take preventive measures and stop the importation.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: Is it necessary to take any preventive action when there is no sign of the out-break of the disease?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: Even if we find one person affected anywhere we should take steps to prevent the spread of infection. If it is not done the disease would spread and cause great loss of life throughout the country.

So much for the first item of the demand.

MR. A. N. VISVANATHA PILLAI: ഇങ്ങനെ എത്ര രൂപാചില വാക്കേണ്ടിവരും?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: ഞാൻ അതു പറഞ്ഞല്ലോ. ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ആണ്ടിൽ ൨൫,൦൦൦ രൂപാ ചിലവാക്കിവരുന്നുണ്ട്. മദ്രാസ് ഗവണ്മെൻറ നടത്തുന്ന ജോലിക്കു ൫,൨൫൦ രൂപാ ഒരാണ്ടിൽ കൊടുക്കണം.

MR. M. N. NARAYANA MENON: എത്രകൊല്ലംകൊണ്ടു ഇതു തീരും.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ കണക്കനുസരിച്ച് ഒരു മൂന്നുകൊല്ലം കമ്പം വാലിയിൽ ഈ ജോലി നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നാൽ കുറെ കാലത്തേയ്ക്ക് ആ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ പ്ലേഗുണ്ടാവുകയോ, അവിടെനിന്നും പ്ലേഗുമറ്റിടങ്ങളിൽ ബാധിക്കയോ ചെയ്കയില്ല എന്നാണ് ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നത്.

The second item in the demand is for the payment of allowance, etc., to Mr. T. R. Narayana Pillai, Public Analyst, in connection with his training in the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI: May I know under whom he is to work?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: He has to work in the Public Health Department.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

He was appointed Public Analyst some time back, but he has not yet taken charge of his duties. He is a Chemistry Graduate and has undergone some training in food analysis in the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, some years ago. But the Government thought that the training he had was not sufficient for his work and so they made it a condition that he should undergo further training in food analysis in the Institute of Science, Bangalore, before he joins duty. Before his appointment he was employed in some mills in Madura where he was getting about Rs. 160 per mensem. He gave up that job and took up this appointment. After his appointment he represented to Government that he should be given some allowance for his training in Bangalore. The amount proposed to be sanctioned by way of allowance is Rs. 70 per mensem, making a total of Rs. 420 for 6 months. Travelling allowance for his journey to and from is Rs. 60 and tuition fee in the Institute at Rs. 20 per mensem amounts to Rs. 120. Thus the total amount proposed to be sanctioned by Government is Rs. 600.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know whether he will be getting his pay during these periods?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: No, he will begin to draw his pay only after he has come back after his training and assumed charge of his duties here.

The sum of Rs. 600 is to meet the expenses which I have described. I hope the House will grant the amount.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI: May I know from the member whether before he was deputed to Bangalore there was an undertaking by him that he would meet the expenses in connection with the training?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: There was no such undertaking. At the time of his appointment it was thought by Government that the cost of his training must be borne by him. Subsequently he put in a representation to the Government stating his difficulties and the fact that he was getting Rs. 160 or so in the Madura mills. Government thought it would only be proper to give him some monetary help to enable him to undergo training at Bangalore.

PRESIDENT: The motion is for a grant of Rs. 6,850 for Public Health and Sanitation. I put it that the motion be passed.

The motion was passed.

POLICE.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 1,080 under Police for the opening of a Police outpost with a staff of one First Grade Head Constable and four Fourth Class Constables at Thalayar on the outlet road to Udumalpet in the Coimbatore District and for enhancing the strength of the Munnar outpost by 6 Constables of the Fourth Class.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly